

Appl. No. 09/848,520
Docket No. 8070MLS
Customer No. 27752
Paper dated 06/01/2006

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

JMP Software, available from SAS Institute, Cary, NC, U.S.A. (website www.jmp.com) is known to calculate uptimes and downtimes, including zero uptime events. However, JMP Software can neither collect data, nor perform the false start analysis of the claimed invention.

Two of the assignee's production systems were modeled using reliability engineering techniques to predict start-up of the systems. The modeling relied upon only competing cause failure analysis.

A specific piece of equipment, known as a splicer used to join two webs together, was modeled. The splicer was considered to have a failure at the end of each roll of material to be joined. Therefore, the model was considered to be a cumulative failure for the limited run time of the splicer upon reaching the end of the roll. Thus, the modeling was done using cumulative and competing cause failure analysis. This modeling was used in a decision to buy a new splicer. That splicer was, in turn, used to make product which was shipped to the trade.

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